

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1- 8.(cancelled)
9. (cancelled)
- 10.(currently amended) A balloon for a catheter, comprising
 - a) an elongated catheter shaft; and
 - b) a selectively crosslinked balloon on a distal portion of the shaft, having non-crosslinked portions, and radially spaced, longitudinally extending stiffening zones of crosslinked material ~~a selectively cross-linked structure so as to define longitudinally extending stiffening zones circumferentially disposed on~~ along at least a section of the balloon, ~~which~~ wherein the stiffening zones expand with adjacent portions of the balloon such that the balloon section expands to a substantially cylindrical configuration.
11. (withdrawn) The balloon catheter of claim 10 wherein the longitudinally extending stiffening zones comprise a polymeric material coextruded as an intermittent first layer of the balloon, wherein the stiffening zone polymeric material has a higher Shore durometer hardness than a polymeric material forming a second layer of the balloon.
12. (canceled)
13. (currently amended) The balloon catheter of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 10, wherein the balloon comprises a polymer having a glass transition temperature of about 20° C to about 60° C.

14. (Original) The balloon catheter of claim 13, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyamide-ether block copolymer, polyether-ester block copolymer, polyester-ester block copolymer, polyester-urethane block copolymer, polyether-urethane block copolymer, polycarbonate-urethane block copolymer, polyolefin, and polyolefin block copolymer.

15. (Original) The balloon catheter of claim 10 wherein the longitudinally extending stiffening zones are symmetrically spaced and configured to control axial growth of the balloon during inflation thereof.

16. (Original) The balloon catheter of claim 10 wherein the stiffening zones define in part an outer most edge of the expanded balloon.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A balloon catheter comprising a balloon having a coating of crosslinked circumferentially spaced longitudinal zones configured to control axial growth.

22-23. (Canceled)